

## AUGUST 2024 MONTH IN REVIEW

# Manitoba

### LAWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### Minimum Wage

Oct 1: That's when Manitoba's general minimum wage will increase from \$15.30 to \$15.80 per hour on Oct. 1. Special minimum wage rates set out in the ESC [\*Regulations\*](#) will continue to apply to workers in the Industrial, Commercial and Institutional (ICI) and Heavy sectors.

#### New Laws

Aug 12: Under the newly signed 5-year agreement on French Language between Manitoba and the federal government, the latter will increase its annual contribution by \$576,704 to a total of \$1,976,704 to ensure access to French-language services in the province. The agreement includes a new strategic work plan outlining initiatives Manitoba will undertake to build the bilingual capacity of the public service and enhance services in French.

#### Accessibility

Nov 1: That's the deadline to participate in the [\*5-year review\*](#) of the *Accessible Employment Standard Regulation*. Enacted in 2019, the [\*Regulation\*](#) is designed to eliminate barriers disabled persons face in the workplace, specifically with regard to hiring, recruitment, retention and employment relationships.

**Action Point:** Find out more about [accessibility laws across Canada](#)

#### New Laws

Aug 22: Manitoba announced that it will provide free coverage of prescription birth

control, starting on October 1. Manitoba Pharmacare Program will cover the full cost of about 60 commonly used birth-control methods including the pill, intrauterine devices and hormone injections.

### **New Laws**

Aug 9: Manitoba announced that it's investing \$20.4 million on construction projects to repair dikes and dams across the province, including rehabilitation of the Carman Dam, Cox Drain and dikes along the Assiniboine River between Portage la Prairie and Baie St. Paul.